

CLAIMS

1. Connecting means (3, 4, 5, 6), made in such a way that they can
be connected with each other in a positive fit in two directions (7,
5 10; 20, 21) that are perpendicular relative to each other.
2. Connecting means according to claim 1, characterized in that the
one connecting means (4, 6) has the same or at least substantially
the same geometry as the other connecting means (3, 5).
- 10 3. Connecting means according to claim 1 or 2 that are made so
that they can be connected by lowering the one connecting
means (3, 5) relative to the other connecting means (4, 6) and
then pushing the connecting means towards each other in a
15 direction perpendicular relative to the lowering motion.
4. Connecting means according to one of the preceding claims,
wherein two connecting means are first coupled with each other
and are then interlocked by inserting a separate locking means
20 (11), wherein the separate locking means preferably is a securing
pin having in particular a cross-section that is substantially
rectangular.
5. Connecting means according to one of the preceding claims,
25 comprising step-shaped or stair-shaped locking means (3, 4).
6. Connecting means according to one of the preceding claims,
comprising a separate locking means (11) which can be pushed
into a channel formed by the connecting means, wherein at least
30 one external dimension of the connecting means is greater than
the corresponding internal dimension of the channel, so that the
separate locking means can be held in the channel by press fit
and the separate locking means and/or the (plural) locking means
consist of a compressible material such as plastics.

7. Panels with connecting means provided laterally according to one of the preceding claims, which are formed in particular as laminate flooring panels comprising a base board and a decorative layer.

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8. Panels according to the preceding claim, comprising further connecting means that are connected with each other by a turning motion and which are preferably provided on long sides of a panel with a rectangular surface.

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